

**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY, METRO MANILA**

**THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 2216

INTRODUCED BY HONORABLE OSCAR L. GOZOS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This legislative measure seeks to create an additional Regional Trial Court in Rosario, Batangas to better improve and speed-up the administration of justice. At present, only one Regional Trial Court exists to take care of the ever increasing number of cases filed by litigants coming from the Municipalities of Rosario, Taysan, Padre Garcia, San Juan, Ibaan, and Lobo.

Much have been said about the need to fast-track the disposition of cases in the country, if only to keep and preserve the trust of the people in our justice system. Unfortunately, mere lip service will not help address the problem. What is needed are concrete actions designed to bridge the problem of the increasing number of caseload vis-à-vis the shortage in number of courts functioning throughout the nation.

The creation of one additional Regional Trial Court in Rosario, Batangas is one sure way to keep the number of caseload of each branch at a more manageable level, thereby ensuring that cases are heard more frequently and eventually disposed of in half a time as they used to be. In this manner, our judges will have more room for an enlightened appreciation of the issues brought before them for evaluation and disposition, thereby ensuring a more fair and judicious judgment.

The early passage into law of this bill is truly one great step towards the realization of this declared objective, thus, much support from my distinguished colleagues is earnestly requested.

OSCAR L. GOZOS
4th District, Batangas

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**AN ACT CREATING ONE ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL
TRIAL COURT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ROSARIO,
BATANGAS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS
PAMBANSA BLG. 129, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR**

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives in Congress
assembled :

SECTION 1. Sub-section (e) Section 14 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129,
otherwise known as the Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980, is hereby
amended to read as follows:

"(e) x x x Regional Trial Judges shall be commissioned for the
Fourth Judicial Region. There shall be:

TWENTY [Nineteen] branches for the Province of Batangas and the
Cities of Lipa, Batangas, and Tanauan, with seats at Batangas City,
Lemery, Taal, Tanauan City, Balayan, Lipa City, Nasugbu, and Rosario.

x x x"

SECTION 2. The additional branch of the Regional Trial Court shall
be located in the Municipality of Rosario, Province of Batangas.

SECTION 3. The Supreme Court shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act and, if warranted, the realignment of the seats of existing branches and their territorial jurisdiction.

SECTION 4. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the Supreme Court under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for the operation and maintenance of the program shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

APPROVED, _____.